

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said method comprising:

identifying text of a computer program to be searched; and

selecting one or more items associated with the computer program in which to search for the text, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting is based on one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more files.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more classes.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting comprises choosing one or more locations associated with the computer program in which the one or more items to be searched are to be included, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not chosen.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the one or more locations comprise one or more directories.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the one or more locations are designated by an environment variable used in compiling the computer program.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the choosing is based on one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the text is referenced by the computer program, but not defined within the computer program.

10. A method of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said method comprising:

selecting one or more items in which to search for text of a computer program, the one or more items being associated with the computer program, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched;

identifying one or more locations in which the one or more items to be searched for the text are to be included, the one or more locations being associated with the computer program, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not identified; and

wherein at least one of the selecting and identifying uses one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

11. A system of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said system comprising:

means for identifying text of a computer program to be searched; and

means for selecting one or more items associated with the computer program in which to search for the text, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the selecting is based on one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more files.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more classes.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the means for selecting comprises means for choosing one or more locations associated with the computer program in which the one or more items to be searched are to be included, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not chosen.



20. A system of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said system comprising:

means for selecting one or more items in which to search for text of a computer program, the one or more items being associated with the computer program, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched;

means for identifying one or more locations in which the one or more items to be searched for the text are to be included, the one or more locations being associated with the computer program, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not identified; and

wherein at least one of the means for selecting and means for identifying uses one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

21. A system of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said system comprising:

text of a computer program to be searched;  
and

at least one computing unit to select one or more items associated with the computer program in which to search for the text, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched.

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22. A system of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said system comprising:

at least one computing unit to select one or more items in which to search for text of a computer program, the one or more items being associated with the computer program, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched;

at least one computing unit to identify one or more locations in which the one or more items to be searched for the text are to be included, the one or more locations being associated with the computer program, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not identified; and

wherein at least one of the selecting and identifying uses one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.



23. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said method comprising:

identifying text of a computer program to be searched; and

selecting one or more items associated with the computer program in which to search for the text, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched.

24. The at least one program storage device of claim 23, wherein the selecting is based on one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

25. The at least one program storage device of claim 23, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more files.

26. The at least one program storage device of claim 23, wherein the one or more items comprise one or more classes.

27. The at least one program storage device of claim 23, wherein the selecting comprises choosing one or more locations associated with the computer program in which the one or more items to be searched are to be included, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not chosen.

28. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein the one or more locations comprise one or more directories.

29. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein the one or more locations are designated by an environment variable used in compiling the computer program.

30. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein the choosing is based on one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

31. The at least one program storage device of claim 23, wherein the text is referenced by the computer program, but not defined within the computer program.

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32. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating searching for text of computer programs, said method comprising:

selecting one or more items in which to search for text of a computer program, the one or more items being associated with the computer program, wherein items not associated with the computer program are not selected to be searched;

identifying one or more locations in which the one or more items to be searched for the text are to be included, the one or more locations being associated with the computer program, wherein locations not associated with the computer program are not identified; and

wherein at least one of the selecting and identifying uses one or more rules of a programming language of the computer program.

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